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## The hawk-girl of Staralia











## Chapter 1 by Redwoodwriter

As I jumped across the rooftops of the town, I felt a sharp fiery pain ignite in my shoulder blades. I quickly slipped on my brown jacket, concealing the tips of my wings sprouting from my back. I would have to steal the potion quickly if I didn't want to morph.

I jumped into the street, mostly empty at dawn, and inched up against the side of the shop. I tried the lock on the door, and surprisingly, it opened.

"Looking for something?" the loud, bellowing voice of the shopkeeper blurted out as he lit a lamp, the dim orange light filling the room.

"Umm.. uhh.. I was wondering if you had some fairy dust lying around. Good to have just in case well.. you know," I stuttered.

"The goblins are tough, but the cloaking spell around our town is strong enough to keep 'em out. I do have a bit in my closet, though, if you like," he told me.

"That would um, be great I guess," I said.

As he rummaged around in the closet, I sneaked over to the morph-reversing potion. There were a lot, and I wasn't sure which would keep me out of my bird form for another day. As the shopkeeper turned around, I grabbed the purple potion and hastily but slyly slipped it into my boot. The shopkeeper held a small pouch in his hand.

"Thirty Staras," he said.

"Err, I don't think enough money for that. I should probably be going," I said, trying to get out of there as fast as possible.

I ran down the road, then stopped to gulp down the potion. But as soon as I sipped it, I knew I had not grabbed the potion that would stop me from turning into a hawk.

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